

## Message Text

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46

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AGR-20 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11

FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12

CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-10 SS-15 STR-08

CEA-02 L-03 H-02 DODE-00 PA-03 USIA-12 PRS-01 NIC-01

RSR-01 /169 W

----- 066606

R 151357 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5477

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 3129

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFFIS, EIND, PE

SUBJ: NATIONALIZATION OF FISHMEAL INDUSTRY: LATEST  
DEVELOPMENTS

REF: LIMA 3085

SUMMARY:

MOST SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT IS MINFISH TANTELEAN ANNOUNCE-  
MENT THAT NUMBER OF FISHMEAL PLANS WILL BE REDUCED BY  
40 PERCENT. DISPUTE OVER ISSUE OF STATE CONTROL OF  
ECONOMY RAGES PUBLICLY BETWEEN RADICAL PRESS ON ONE HAND  
AND PRIVATE SECTOR INTERESTS AND MODERATE PRESS ON OTHER.  
FIRST OPEN INDICATION OF SCHISM IN COUNCIL OF MINISTERS  
OVER NATIONALIZATION ISSUE PROVIDED BY SPEECH OF MIN OF ECON AND  
FINANCE DENOUNCING RADICAL ATTEMPTS TO PROMOTE COMPLETE STATE  
SOCIALISM. PESCAPERU IN MEANTIME HAS TAKEN  
OVER MANAGEMENT OF SEVERAL PLANTS ON SOUTH CENTRAL COAST.  
END SUMMARY

1. ON MAY 11, MINFISH TANTELEAN ANNOUNCED REDUCTION  
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OF FISHMEAL PLANTS BY 40 PERCENT PLANNED AS PART OF  
GENERAL PROGRAM OF TRIMMING INDUSTRY, WHICH INCLUDES  
LIKELY TRANSFER OF MANY WORKERS TO OTHER EMPLOYMENT.  
(SEE REFTEL) PERU HAS 105 PLANTS, OF WHICH 85 IN  
OPERATION THIS YEAR.

2. POLEMIC ABOUT NATIONALIZATION CONTINUES WITH PUBLI-  
CATION OF EDITORIALS, ARTICLES AND ADS IN MODERATE PRESS  
DENCOUNCING TAKEOVER, WHILE RADICAL PRESS ADVOCATING ADDI-  
TIONAL MOVES TOWARDS SOCIALISM. NATIONAL FEDERATION  
OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE, (FEDECAM), MOST IMPORTANT REPRESENTATIVE OF COMMERCIAL INTERESTS, RAN AD IN "LA PRENSA" CONDEMNING NATIONALIZATION AND WARNING GOP THAT PRIVATE SECTOR IS LOSING CONFIDENCE AND WILL CEASE INVESTING, CAUSING CAPITAL SHORTAGES AND DEVELOPMENT SLOWDOWN. RADICAL LEFTIST "EXPRESSO" DECLARED EDITORIALLY THAT THOSE OPPOSING GOP MOVE FAIL TO UNDERSTAND AND SHOULD BE RESIGNED THAT PERU IS "HEADING TOWARD SOCIALISM"...." BECAUSE THE REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT HAS SO STATED."

3. SENSITIVE TO INCREASING ALARM OF PRIVATE SECTOR, MIN OF ECON AND FINANCE, MORALES BERMUDEZ, IN PUBLIC STATEMENT ON MAY 11 EMPHASIZED GOP NOT PLANNING TO NATIONALIZE ALL INDUSTRY. MORALES BERMUDEZ, STRESSING NEED FOR PLURALISTIC ECONOMY, DENOUNCED RADICAL MOUTHPIECES FOR STIRRING UP POPULACE AGAINST PRIVATE ENTERPRISE, AND ENCOURAGING PRIVATE SECTOR DISTRUST OF GOVERNMENT'S REVOLUTIONARY GOALS. MORALES BERMUDEZ' SPEECH IS FIRST PUBLIC MANIFESTATION OF DISAGREEMENT AMONG MINISTERS OVER STATE SOCIALISM ISSUE, THEREBY ADDING CREDENCE TO RUMORS THAT SIGNIFICANT OPPOSITION TO LATEST GOP MOVE EXISTS WITHIN GOVERNMENT ITSELF. (SEE REFTEL.)

4. ON MAY 14, LOCAL PRESS REPORTED PESCA PERU INTERVENED AND NOW MANAGING 24 FISHMEAL PLANTS AT PISCO, CHINCHA AND TAMBO DE MORA.  
BELCHER

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NMAFVVZCZ

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

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